

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2006/002860

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. B63B27/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
B63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 2 175 860 A (LINKLETTERS PATENT SHIP FITTING) 10 December 1986 (1986-12-10) the whole document	1,2,5, 9-14,16, 18-23
X	GB 2 225 753 A (OFFSHORE DESIGN ENGINEERING LI [GB]) 13 June 1990 (1990-06-13) the whole document	1-23
X	US 2003/217681 A1 (FUNK JAMES E [US]) 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27) paragraph [0029]; figures 4,5 -/-	1-6,8, 11-23

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 October 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/10/2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040; Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016.

Authorized officer

DE SENA HERNANDORENA

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2006/002860

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 465 640 A (CHAMBON CIE STE GLE REMORQ TRA [FR]) 27 March 1981 (1981-03-27) the whole document	1,2,5,9, 10, 12-14, 16-23
X	FR 2 586 641 A2 (ROUME CHRISTIAN [FR]) 6 March 1987 (1987-03-06) the whole document	1-3,9, 10,12-23
X	WO 02/20343 A (P & R SYSTEMS [NL]; PRINS REINOUT KLAAR NORFOLC JA [NL]) 14 March 2002 (2002-03-14) the whole document	1,2,9, 10,12, 16-23
X	WO 97/29946 A (KOPPERNAES A S [NO]; UNDERTUN STEINAR [NO]) 21 August 1997 (1997-08-21) the whole document	1-4, 8-10, 16-23
X	JP 55 091488 A (MITSUI SHIPBUILDING ENG) 11 July 1980 (1980-07-11) abstract	1,2,5,9, 10, 12-14, 16-23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2006/002860

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
GB 2175860	A	10-12-1986	NONE	
GB 2225753	A	13-06-1990	NO 894730 A	05-06-1990
US 2003217681	A1	27-11-2003	NONE	
FR 2465640	A	27-03-1981	NONE	
FR 2586641	A2	06-03-1987	NONE	
WO 0220343	A	14-03-2002	AT 335652 T AU 9438801 A BR 0113414 A CA 2421428 A1 EP 1315651 A1 NL 1016111 C2 US 2003182741 A1	15-09-2006 22-03-2002 29-07-2003 14-03-2002 04-06-2003 07-03-2002 02-10-2003
WO 9729946	A	21-08-1997	AT 186882 T AU 715457 B2 AU 1814197 A DE 69605329 D1 EP 0879172 A1 NO 960559 A PL 328429 A1	15-12-1999 03-02-2000 02-09-1997 30-12-1999 25-11-1998 14-08-1997 01-02-1999
JP 55091488	A	11-07-1980	NONE	